

Doris served her community in an official capacity as well. From 1971 until 1990, Doris was a member of community board 7, and the board's district manager from 1983 to 1990. I am also proud to report that Doris received special recognition for her years of hard work when Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger appointed her the official historian for the borough of Manhattan.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to celebrate and pay tribute to the life's work of Doris Rosenblum, a person to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude. She is an example to each of us who have chosen to serve in the public interest and I ask my colleagues to join with me in honor of her relentless dedication to the good of her community.

#### MENTAL HEALTH COVERAGE

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 1996*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in the past week, I have introduced two bills to improve mental health coverage. On Monday, September 9, I introduced the National Mental Health Improvement Act of 1996 which provides parity in insurance coverage of mental illness and improves mental health services available to Medicare beneficiaries. On September 10, I introduced a second mental health bill identical to the bill passed by Senator DOMENICI and others in the Senate on September 5 by a vote of 82 to 15.

Today, Representative LOUIS STOKES offered a motion to instruct the House conferees on the VA-HUD appropriations bill to recede to the Senate on several key amendments adopted by the Senate to the fiscal year 1997 VA-HUD appropriations bill. One key amendment on which the motion was based is the mental health amendment offered by Senator DOMENICI—the companion of which I introduced in the House on September 10. I applaud the efforts of Mr. STOKES and support his motion to instruct.

It is a tragedy that mental health parity was abandoned in the Kennedy-Kassebaum health insurance bill, and is a primary reason why I voted against the bill. The bills I introduced this week represent an urgently needed change in coverage to end discrimination against those with mental illness. The denial of equal treatment for the mentally ill is not about money—it's only about discrimination. The mental health need of all Americans can no longer be ignored.

#### THANK YOU, KATHY O'BRIEN, FOR YOUR LOYAL SERVICE

#### HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 1996*

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, it was with mixed emotions that I announced last December 11 my decision to retire from the House at the conclusion of my current term. As I explained at the time, the decision to retire was made more difficult because of the loyalty and dedication of my staff—and because of the genuine friendship I feel for them.

Today, I want to thank one member of my staff—Kathryn O'Brien, my staff assistant in my Conroe district office—for everything she's done for me and my constituents in the almost 4 years that she has worked in my office.

When Montgomery County was first added to the 8th Congressional District in 1993, I asked friends, business leaders and political leaders in Montgomery County if they could recommend someone to head up the Conroe office. Kathy came highly recommended as someone whose people skills and dedication to getting the job done would be a major asset to me as I worked to represent the men and women of Montgomery County in Congress.

Prior to working in my Conroe office, Kathy had worked as a legal secretary in the Montgomery County Attorney's office, where she handled a wide variety of legal duties. Her professional skills and her enthusiasm were widely recognized, and her skill at dealing with people was very much appreciated.

Kathy has used those skills effectively in my Conroe office, where she has assisted constituents throughout Montgomery County who have experienced problems with Federal agencies, including the Social Security Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Through her efforts, lost Social Security checks have been located, immigration problems have been resolved, overdue military medals have been presented to veterans and disaster aid has reached those who needed it.

Kathy has represented me at events in Montgomery County I was unable to attend, and has relayed the concerns of constituents in Montgomery County to my district and Washington staff.

For 10 years, Kathy served with distinction in the U.S. Air Force as a communications specialist in Germany and Texas. With a top-secret clearance, Kathy helped prepare and transmit a variety of communications from her duty station. In the Air Force, she earned the Vietnam Era Service Award, the Expert Marksman Award, as well as her telecommunications certification. All of us appreciate the dedication to her country that Kathy exhibited as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

Kathy has lived overseas for much of her life, and has traveled extensively throughout Europe and the United States.

Kathy has yet to make a definite decision about what she wants to do in the years ahead. But I am confident that the skills and the personal qualities she has demonstrated as a member of my staff will lead to continued success in the future.

Kathy O'Brien is one of those hardworking men and women who make all of us in this institution look better than we deserve. She has done that for me, and I appreciate this opportunity to publicly thank her for the dedication, loyalty, and professionalism she has exhibited as a member of my staff.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in saying thank you to Kathy O'Brien for her years of loyal service to me, to the men and women of Texas' 8th Congressional District, and to this great institution. And I know you join with me in wishing Kathy, her son Cesare Antonio, and her daughter, Valerie Anne, all the best in the years ahead.

#### RECOGNIZING BILL PENCE

#### HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 1996*

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, according to the 19th century French physiologist Claude Bernard, "The true worth of a researcher lies in pursuing what he did not seek in his experiment as well as what he sought." In other words, the true scientist seeks truth where he finds it, and does so diligently and doggedly.

That's a mission that has been fulfilled ably by Bill Pence, who has taught science in the San Ramon Unified School District for 20 years. Bill has been named 1 of 100 teachers nationwide to receive the Tandy Technology Award for his outstanding service to his students and to our country.

Bill has poured his life, his energy, and thousands of his own dollars into making sure his high school laboratory stays on the leading edge of research and technology. Moreover, he has actively sought help from the private sector, soliciting everything from personal computers to a thermocycler in order to facilitate the calibre of research he knows is vital to true scientific education.

In 1994, two of Bill's students gained national headlines when they discovered human genes that may be linked to cancer. The students, Yu Fong Hong and Li Ho, found this new data in a classroom experiment—an experiment made possible because of the dedication of Bill Pence.

It is with great pride and pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bill Pence's commitment to the young people of my home district in the East Bay region of San Francisco and thank him for representing the best in American education. The future is brighter for thousands of young people because of Bill's work, and he merits our gratitude for all he has done for tomorrow's leaders.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMIL AND ROSE BIANCIELLA

#### HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 1996*

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Emil and Rose Bianciella of Bayonne, NJ, on their 50th wedding anniversary. This remarkable couple was married on August 25, 1946. They have been life-long residents of Hudson County, devoted to both their community and family.

The Biancrellas have enjoyed the joy of togetherness for five decades. Their love and dedication to each other and their family has been obvious to even the most casual observer. I believe their children, Rachel Libby and Joseph Bianciella, would say that they have been wonderful parents. Emil and Rose have also lavished their affection on their three grandchildren, Anthony, Kimberly, and Arianna.

In life, it is the special moments that should be cherished, and a 50th wedding anniversary is one of those times. I wish both of them another 50 years of wonderful matrimony.